

<b>Report No. TC00121</b> <b>Appendix: E</b> <b>Agenda Item No.12</b>	<b>Council</b>  <b>13<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>
<b>Oakham Town Council</b>	
<b>Report Author: Cllr Adam Lowe</b>	<b>Title: Councillor</b>
<b>Subject: Centenary Field Decision Regarding Development</b>	
<b>Strategic Aims.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Work with and in partnership with Rutland County Council and other partner groups.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ensure that Oakham remains a viable and pleasant environment in which to live, work and play.</b></li> <li>• <b>Improve and increase facilities within the town.</b></li> <li>• <b>Promote the town as an attractive place to visit and stay.</b></li> </ul>	

I met with a resident regarding the Fitness Trail on the Centenary Field and anti-social behaviour in and around this area. There was clearly a miscommunication where residents were not informed about the Fitness Trail, however they do accept that the concept and use of the land by the whole of the community is appropriate. Residents have made some suggestions that they feel would enhance the Fitness Trail and help reduce anti-social behaviour in this area.

Having spoken to the Chairman, Cllr Romney feels that a Working Group could manage this moving forward, or perhaps it would become a key element to the T&C of the Parks and Planning element of the Councils structure where a consultation policy is introduced, one for Policies and Procedures to explore.

To demonstrate this Council resolve in dealing with resident's opinions I might suggest we also make some decisions that could be implemented with minimal cost and effort utilising current process.

CCTV – Cllr Lowe emailed Rutland County Council and ask that the CCTV is moved onto Huntsman drive. (actioned - RCC are in talks with the residents regarding this).

Litter being discarded at some homes adjacent to the college. Cllr Lowe emailed Rutland County Council and asked they investigate this. (actioned - being addressed)

Referring to the pictures I have outlined what could be actioned as a result of this meeting.

Here I have captured all the points discussed with the resident:

- 1) Entrance points could do with underfoot matting. Off Barleythorpe Rd & Huntsman Drive.
- 2) Kissing Gate at the Barleythorpe Entrance.
- 3) Significant gaps in the outer perimeter fenced are repaired or filled in. This would be to encourage main access usage. Planting of hedges and installation of fencing would address the gaps.
- 4) Two-meter-wide wildflower strip introduced to the frontage of the houses to discourage people climbing over the metal fence. Residents may choose to plant bushes in time.
- 5) Particular attention to the anti-social behaviour smoking den, with wild screening being removed to open the area up to the rest of the field, this would involve removing part of an old long jump pit into this. (actioned - being addressed)

- 6) The copse or wood - Chain link fencing to be removed as it is a danger to animals and humans. Concrete posts may be left if they are not an issue.
- 7) The copse or wood - Fallen logs that have become meeting points are cut up and possibly removed, along with concrete blocks.
- 8) Review the size of the waste bins, the one at the entrance, can be changed to a large size.

### **Proposals:**

- (a) The pictures that show a small tree that is partly fallen and at risk of falling further and the large fallen tree which is also unstable despite being almost at ground level are both cut down and removed by the Council's tree surgeon

*Note: Removing the tree removes seating areas which is where anti-social behaviour is happening.*

- (b) The picture that shows the chain link - Council authorise Cllr Lowe/Councillors to cut the damaged chain link away and remove it.

*Note: Cllr Lowe feels this is within his capability and it would not cost the Council, other Councillors may choose to assist. The Council Insurance would cover the Councillors if the Council agreed.*

- (c) The picture that shows small access needs to be closed off and bolstered with some additional wooden straight beams. Council authorises Cllr Lowe to action this.

*Note: Cllr Lowe feels this within his capability, and this would also save the Council money, it is a straightforward piece of work. Estimated materials £100.00 incl VAT*

- (d) The picture that shows fence 01 and 02. The resident has asked if a 2-meter-wide wildflower bed can be created. Council approves the removal of the turf and plant seed and scrubs accordingly.

- (e) The picture that shows the anti-social behaviour hide bush. Council approves the bush is removed, the old long jump track is partly removed and the area re-turfed to open this hidden area.

The Council authorises the expenditure and the Clerk to instruct a contactor

*Note: Kissing Gate and additional hedge line work is an area where Cllr Lowe would be prepared to be involved in making and installing as we move into the warmer months.*

There is an opportunity for the Council to not just make decisions but also be hands on and demonstrate the commitment we as Councillors have to the Community.

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